

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-01

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TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6088

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USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS LISBON 1158

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO, AO

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

1. ANGOLA: HEAVY NEWSPLAY GIVEN ON FEB. 22 TV AND RADIO AND FEB. 23 PRESS RE GOP OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF MPLA GOVERNMENT, ANNOUNCED FEB. 22. PLAY GAVE BALANCED ATTENTION TO CRITICISM OF RECOGNITION BY PPD AND CDS PARTY LEADERS. FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL IN FEB. 23 CENTER-RIGHT "O DIA" EXPRESSED HOPE THAT "THE DOUBTS OF SO MANY PORTUGUESE (ABOUT THIS RECOGNITION) PROVE UNFOUNDED." EDITORIAL SAID LARGE SEGMENTS OF PORTUGUESE PUBLIC CANNOT SEE "HOW IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR A COUNTRY, WHICH DESERVES INTERNATIONAL RESPECT, TO PUT ASIDE AN AGREEMENT WHICH WAS FREELY ENTERED INTO"; PAPER NOTED THAT THIS COULD BE THE CASE AS REGARDS ALVOR ACCORD OF JANUARY 1974, IN WHICH PORTUGAL RECOGNIZED ALL THREE ANGOLAN FACTIONS. EDITORIAL ADDED THAT "GIVEN THE SIMILARITY AND CLOSE RELATIONSHIP EXISTING BETWEEN THE MPLA AND FRELIMO, WE CANNOT, IN GOOD CONSCIENCE, HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE AND OPTIMISM...ABOUT PORTUGUESE INTERESTS IN ANGOLA...." IN OTHER NEWSPLAY, PORTUGUESE PRESS EMPHASIZED NEW AIRLIFT PLANNED TO BRING SOME 5,000 ADDITIONAL REFUGEES TO PORTUGAL FROM ANGOLA AND -- IN OFFICIAL GOP NEWS AGENCY ARTICLE FROM JOHANNESBURG -- REPORTS THAT CUBAN TROOPS' FAMILIES ARE JOINING THEM IN ANGOLA TO CREATE A COMMUNITY THERE OF PERHAPS 40,000 CUBANS.

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2. KISSINGER/PORTUGAL: INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST TABLOID WEEKLY
"O JORNAL" OF FEB. 20 PUBLISHED TWO-PAGE REHASH OF TAD SZULC'S
RECENT "FOREIGN AFFAIRS" AND "NEW REPUBLIC" PIECES ON U.S.
POLICY RE PORTUGAL.
JORDAN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Event:
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